THE LEMON GROVE REVIEW

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O Christmas Bush!

If the World Depended on East County

by Jason Williams

It is Christmas Eve and all over East County, Christmas trees have been decorated by adults, kids and grandkids, standing lit and magnificent in living rooms soon to be filled with gifts, family and friends.

Thousands of trees are cut down, shipped into the county and dragged into houses for a few days every year in the long-standing ritual of the Christmas tree.

The evergreens with which most choose to adorn their homes are grown specifically for the purpose of being Christmas trees. What would happen if we had to rely on trees native to this region? What would Christmas be like if the Christmas tree had been invented in East County?

Candidates include the Cottonwood, Live Oak, Scrub Oak, Sycamore, Willow and on the humbler side the Hollyleaf Cherry, Sugar Bush and Incense Cedar — a group of trees which would probably be much more recognizable by name if you had to hunt one down and shove it into your living room every year.

How many of us would forego the tradition if all we had to choose from were the locals.

Christmas is as much a melting pot of various traditions as the United States is of various races. For the Christian Church, Christmas celebrates the Nativity, or birth of Christ, though the origin of the festival is unknown.

It is believed to come, in part, from the Germanic and Celtic peoples as a celebration of the winter solstice, however Christmas festivals have been celebrated since the 4th Century by the Christians.

Dutch settlers brought to the New World the idea of St. Nicholas Day, originally celebrating the patron saint of children on Dec. 6. British settlers changed Saint Nicholas into Santa Claus, and thus an American version of an ancient holiday was born.

The Christmas tree falls into this history as being derived from the paradise tree, a symbol for Eden found in German mystery plays. In the 17th Century, the use of the Christmas tree began in France, and from there moved into Germany and Northern Europe.

In 1841, the Christmas tree was introduced in Great Britain by the prince consort of Queen Victoria and was then carried to the United States by immigrants.

Bob Eisley of the San Diego County Department of Agriculture, environmental division, and Mitch Beachamp of Pacific Southwest Biological Services provided a list of trees native to East County as well as their opinions of which would appear in their homes if they were forced to give up the traditional tree.

The trees fall into two categories: "larger than life" and "more of a bush than a tree." We will begin with larger than life.

The Cottonwood and the Willow fall into the same family, but are two different trees. The Cottonwood has a round or oval shape with thin branches where ornaments would most likely hang — not that that would be the main problem. The Willow is a deciduous tree of similar shape.

Both trees would, however, be yellow at Christmas time and characteristically stand 35 - 50 feet tall, being an incredibly fast growing species of trees.

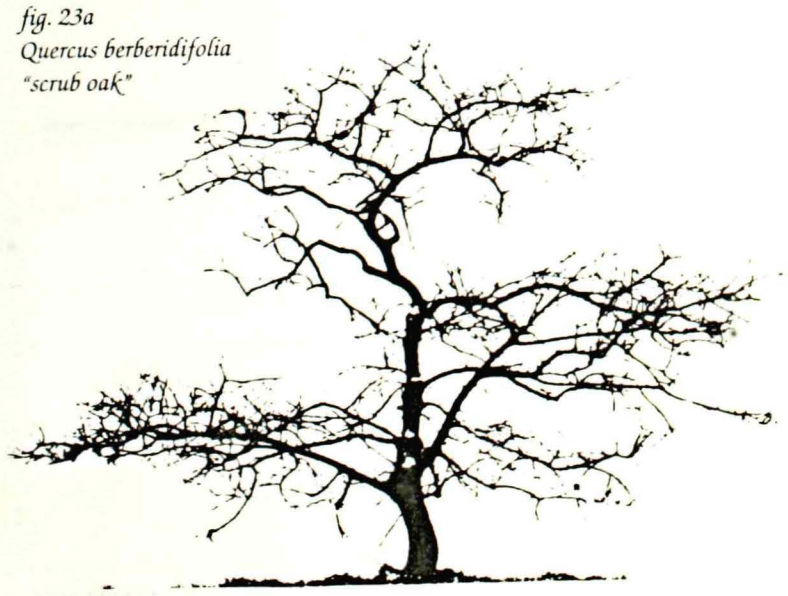

fig. 23a
Quercus berberidifolia
"scrub oak"

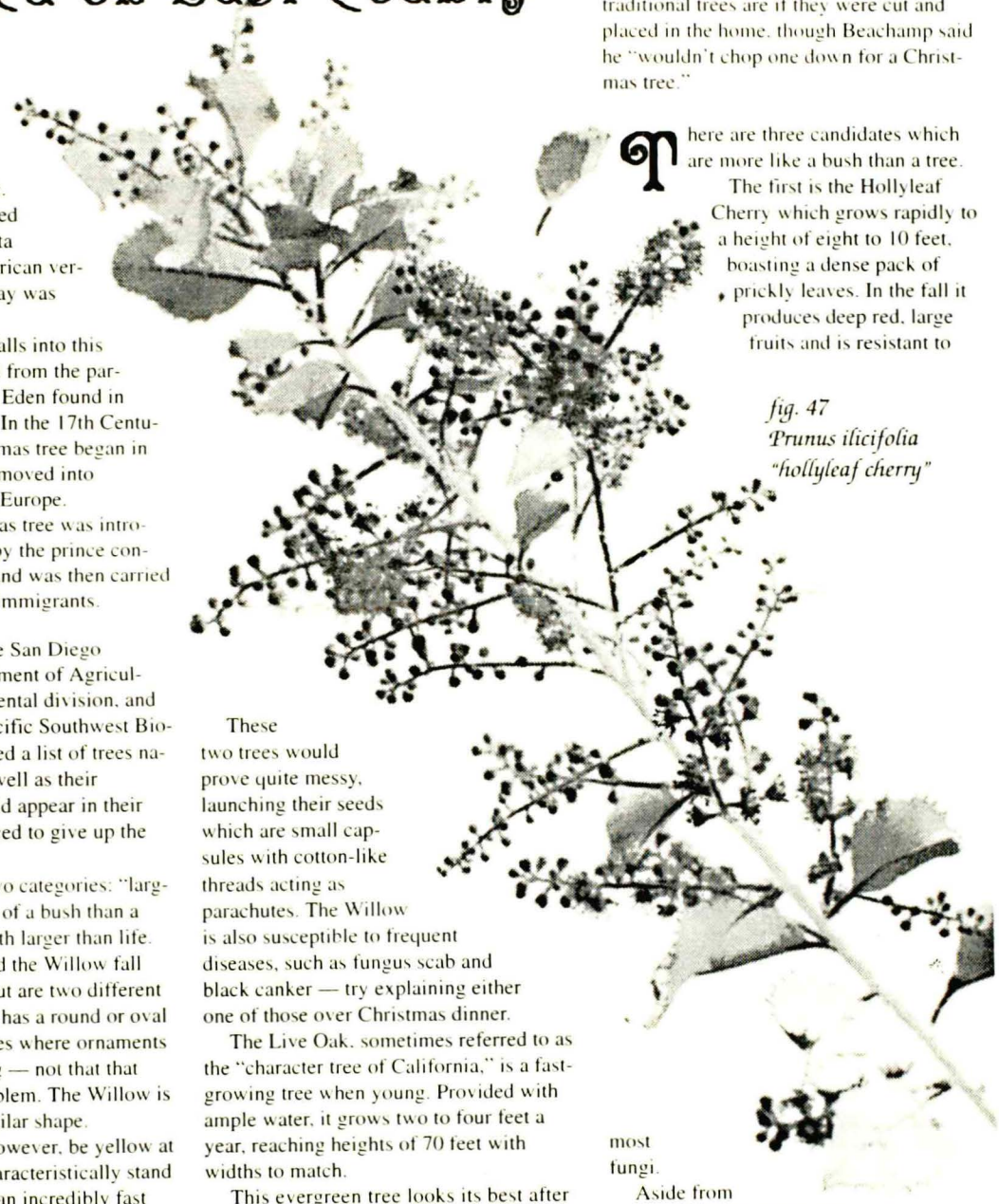

fig. 47
Prunus ilicifolia
"hollyleaf cherry"

These two trees would prove quite messy, launching their seeds which are small capsules with cotton-like threads acting as parachutes. The Willow is also susceptible to frequent diseases, such as fungus scab and black canker — try explaining either one of those over Christmas dinner.

The Live Oak, sometimes referred to as the "character tree of California," is a fast-growing tree when young. Provided with ample water, it grows two to four feet a year, reaching heights of 70 feet with widths to match.

This evergreen tree looks its best after 20 - 25 years of growth, and although it will be full and green at Christmas time, it's scaly, dark reddish-brown bark and spiny leaves are probably a deterrent. These trees are usually cultivated for shade and hung with Spanish moss, not tinsel.

The Scrub Oak, a smaller version of the Live Oak, reaching heights of 12 - 20 feet and widths of the same. However this tree generally has contorted trunks divided near the ground and it's leaves turn a tan-brown in the winter.

If you think Legos are a choking hazard for children 3 and under, the oak family gives you acorns to worry about.

The Sycamore, common around the Santee Lakes area, grows in 60-foot-tall clumps. To challenge any pine-needle mess, this tree drops 8- to 12-inch-wide leaves and is brown before it could be cut for Christmas, turning color as early as July.

The Sycamore can be pruned to reduce droppage, though getting rid of all the strands of tiny seed pods would take all 12 days of Christmas. This tree is also a favorite of anthracnose fungus which kills new leaves.

Water is not a problem for any of these larger trees; they would be watered as the traditional trees are if they were cut and placed in the home, though Beachamp said he "wouldn't chop one down for a Christmas tree."

There are three candidates which are more like a bush than a tree.

The first is the Hollyleaf Cherry which grows rapidly to a height of eight to 10 feet, boasting a dense pack of prickly leaves. In the fall it produces deep red, large fruits and is resistant to most fungi.

Aside from the fruit, it is a close match to our traditional tree.

The second is the Sugar Bush, an evergreen shrub which is rounded with an abundant leaf coverage and grows between eight and 10 feet tall. It is covered by leathery, dark green leaves folded at the center and produces raspberry-red and cream colored flowers which produce berries of the same color.

The berries are favorites of birds, and would probably become the favorite of small children as well, but could easily be trimmed off to leave simply the green leaves.

The third is the Incense Cedar, normally a larger tree of 80 feet, it can be cultivated as a smaller tree of six to seven feet if grown in a 5- to 15-gallon bucket as suggested by Mitch Beachamp of Southwest Biological Services.

This cedar is a pyramidal conifer which is slow-growing at first and gives off a

Continued on Page 2

© Christmas Bush!

Continued from Page 1

spicy fragrance.

All these trees are generally possessed of a wide root base which would be restricted in a bucket. Therefore, such a planted tree would require careful watering to prevent it from drying out.

Also because of this root base, none of the trees could be dug up and transplanted.

"When you put a tree in a pot, it changes the equation," said Bob Eisley of the Department of Agriculture.

Neither Eisley or Beachamp were very enthusiastic about switching to a native tree. Besides, according to Eisley, you can not legally cut down a tree for Christmas unless it's on a tree farm.

The purpose for this, says Beachamp, is not to save the species of tree, but rather the habitat created by that type of tree growing where it does. It is not that our native trees are endangered, but rather the habitats they create. This is perhaps one of the reasons it's good to import trees.

The main reason trees are brought in from the north, according to Beachamp, has to do with cost and growth rate.

"They come from an optimal region," said Beachamp. "They grow so fast in that region that it creates a market to grow and ship them. We could not do that down here."

The trees would grow very slow in our neck of the woods compared to the Pacific Northwest. The pines we do have are old pines from a wetter time. If we cut them down, it is forest that would never come back.

"In the north, Christmas trees are a renewable resource," said Beachamp.

A tree that grows in three to four years up north would take 15 to 20 years to reach the same height in East County due to climate and moisture.

It appears as though East County is stuck either planting our own native trees, or continuing to buy those which are shipped in from the north — the traditional tree.

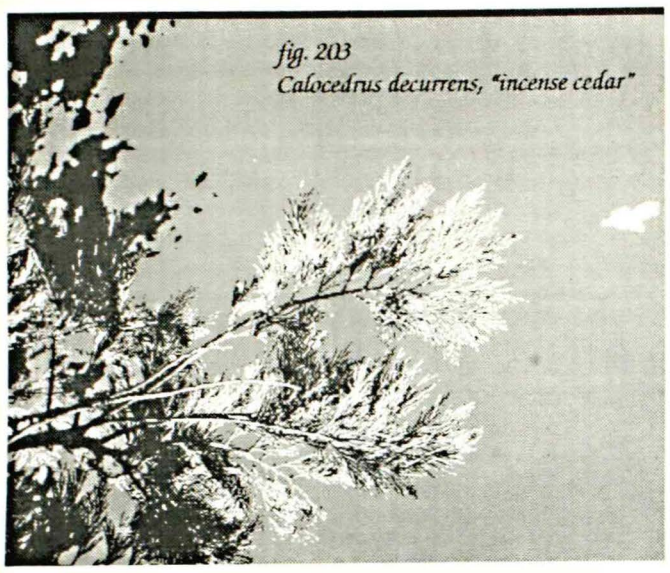

fig. 203
Calocedrus decurrens, "incense cedar"

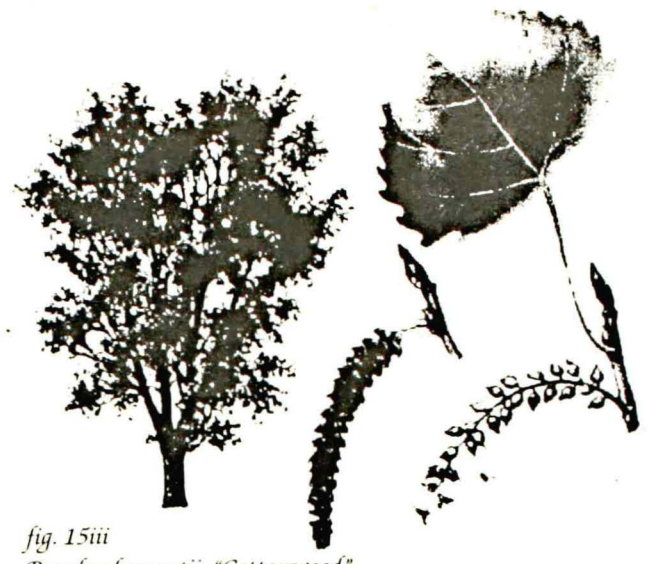

fig. 15iii
Populus fremontii, "Cottonwood"

If forced to choose, the home-grown Incense Cedar would probably be the best choice. However, you would have to keep it alive until Christmas.

"I don't think any would work," said Eisley. "You could decorate a tumbleweed, but that doesn't make it a Christmas tree."

Cities balk, East County not on county's economic development project grant list

by Joe Naiman

In September, the county's Office of Trade and Business Development submitted a list of projects eligible for grants from the United States Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration.

Earlier this month, the EDA announced that four San Diego County projects were under consideration.

Not only are no East County projects included among those still being considered, but none were even submitted as eligible.

Cindy Gompper-Graves, the project manager for the county Office of Trade and Business Development, explained that the application is a three-phase process, and while Phase 1 was submittal of eligible projects to the EDA, the EDA meeting in Seattle involved a presentation of the four projects EDA was willing to discuss, bringing the process to Phase 2.

Last year, only one project reached the final phase and was accepted. The Economic Development Agency granted $1.6 million for the Gillespie Field Marshall Avenue Development Improvements Project.

Gompper-Graves said that the reason no East County projects were submitted this year is that none of the cities were willing to put up the in-kind match required for the EDA grant.

"You have to make sure you have your funding set up for your in-kind contribution," she said.

Gompper-Graves stated that the criteria EDA considers included the unemployment rate in the community in which the project is proposed, the project itself, contributions from the county or private sources, and the job creation potential.

The county's Overall Economic Development Program 1998-99 annual report was reviewed and approved by the Overall Economic Development Program Committee on August 14 and by the Board of Supervisors Sept. 15.

The OEDP annual report included 10 projects which were eligible for EDA funding in conjunction with an in-kind match from the county, city, or development agency submitting the proposal.

As required by Federal regulations, Overall Economic Development Program committees include representatives of local government, business, industry, finance, agriculture, professions, organized labor, education, racial/cultural minorities, and the unemployed or underemployed.

Of the 19 members of the commission only one, Deanna Weeks of the East County Economic Development Council, is based in East County, and none of the four members representing cities are from East County's four cities.

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Reel thoughts

'Lughnasa' a treat not just for Irish

by Betty Jo Tucker

Imagine having a spirited conversation with one of Ireland's friendliest leprechauns. That gives you some idea of how much fun a phone interview can be with Pat O'Connor, director of the movie version of Brian Friel's acclaimed play, "Dancing at Lughnasa."

O'Connor's great sense of humor can't hide his serious reasons for wanting to helm this deeply moving story of five unmarried sisters in 1930's Ireland.

"What I intended to do was to illuminate the human character and celebrate the best side of what we are," he declared in his lilting Irish brogue. "By the end of this film, I wanted people to experience a sense of loss, but I also wanted them to feel uplifted because of the dignity and integrity of the characters they've come to care about."

Audiences do care about these women who gain strength and courage from each other despite their individual eccentricities and deplorable economic conditions.

O'Connor said Oscar-winner Meryl Streep was compelled to appear as the oldest sister.

"She is a very intelligent actor," he said. "She knew this was an ensemble piece, not a star turn for her, and that's the way she wanted it."

In addition to Streep, this talented director of such popular films as "Circle of Friends," "January Man," and "Cal" assembled the best people possible (Sophie Thompson, Kathy Burke, Catherine McCormack, Brid Brennan, Michael Gambon), then rehearsed them together for two weeks so they would get to know each other.

Meryl Streep leads an indominable group of sisters in Pat O'Connor's film version of "Dancing at Lughnasa."

"I also got close to them," he said. "I always feel like an actor when working with actors, so they trust me. I don't let technology get in the way of directing."

One of the film's most exciting sequences shows all five sisters slowly joining in an exuberant display of Irish folkdancing. O'Connor didn't want to shoot it during the day or at night, searching for the perfect lighting.

"We did it during three consecutive twilights and used three cameras to get close shots and wider shots," he explained. "I wanted to emphasize the passion of the dance, not the choreography. That's why I told the women to forget the steps after they learned them and concentrate on the emotion they were feeling."

The result is one of the year's most memorable cinematic experiences.

O'Connor said his "abiding interest in life" are films about ordinary people.

"I want people to remember this film like I remember the movies of John Ford and John Huston," he said.

Pat O'Connor, no ordinary director, has enriched moviegoers everywhere (not just the Irish) with "Dancing At Lughnasa," an extraordinary film tribute to the human spirit.

PG Perspectives

Santa deals

by Phillip Giannangeli

It's time for another one of those Christmas columns. Once a year, without fail, Christmas comes along and, once a year without fail, I have to write a column about it. Those are the marching orders. So it's Christmas 1998 and here's this year's Christmas column.

Ho, ho, ho.

Complain as I just did, I was really lucky this year because I stumbled into Santa's secret vault. It's a place not too many know about and I was able to get a peek at the wish lists of a lot of people. I was really surprised/shocked by what some of these folks wanted.

Interested? Here are a few.

The president's wish was one that was sort of astrological. He said he wanted an entire year without Starrs. He didn't want a Starr to guide him, no shooting Starrs and, most of all, no Starr to wish on. The President did hint, obliquely, that a falling Starr wouldn't be too bad.

That's what was on Bill Clinton's wish list. I looked for Hillary's list, but I couldn't find it.

Another letter writer to Santa was a guy who just signed his letter "Kevin B." He said he was looking to improve his lifestyle and needed a bit of a salary increase. He told Santa that he was talking with several possible employers, including his most recent one, and he indicated moving to a new locale wouldn't be a problem. He closed with a hint for the desired salary increase, but there were too many zeros and it ran off the edge of the letter. He told Santa thanks in advance because he was sure Santa could help him.

The section of the vault I was investigating must have been the one where Santa kept all the sports-related letters. Kevin B's letter had baseballs monogrammed all over it. Another one I found just had a lightening bolt and the signature of someone named Alex. These sports people can go by first names I guess and Santa knows who they are.

The really unusual thing about Alex's letter was that it wasn't a request. It was a thank-you note for what Santa had managed to get for him last year. He kept referring to empty seats and full wallets and said that last year's gift just keeps on giving and giving. Instead of the traditional ho, ho, ho, Alex ended his letter with a ha, ha, ha!

I also found a letter from one of our East County people. It was a letter from Mark Lewis. Mayor Mark Lewis. When I read his request there was an uncanniness to it.: Mr. Lewis had apparently written Santa early in September and said all he wanted for Christmas was an extra 142 votes. His special plea was that they had to be delivered on or about Nov. 3, 1998. He said he'd be ever so grateful for those 142 votes and he even promised Santa he'd quit competing with Santa in the breadth and girth battle if only Santa would come through for him. Santa did and now we'll see if His Rotundity will keep his word.

As I looked through some of the other letters, I saw several from ordinary folks. There were requests for computers, winter coats, toys and the usual things that can make Christmas fun. Some were a little outrageous, but they were letters to Santa, so what the heck.

The last one I had a chance to look at was one from a little girl. Her request was a simple one. All she wanted was a kinder world to live in. Maybe she'll get her wish Christmas morning. We'll see.

A Merry Christmas to all!

Commentary

The Y2K Bug

by Supervisor Dianne Jacob

Recently, several people contacted my office seeking information about the Year 2000 (Y2K). Their primary concern was that they had heard all sorts of news reports with warnings about the impending disaster of the "Y2K Bug."

I have no doubt that these folks are not alone. For most of us, the "Y2K Bug" remains a mystery. Its anticipated impacts are hard to pin down at best.

Simply, the "Y2K Bug" is the glitch that will occur at midnight between Dec. 31, 1999 and Jan. 1, 2000. Since most computers utilize only the last two digits of the year (for example, "99," the turning of the century could be read by the computer as "1900" instead of "2000."

This glitch could throw off all types of computer-reliant systems - from simple conveniences such as lawn sprinkler timers and microwaves, to essential services such as police protection, utility services and air traffic control systems.

For several years, the county has been working on internal systems to assure the organization is fully prepared to meet the challenges of the new millennium. Our county systems are expected to be fully compliant by February of 1999, and Y2K experts will spend the remainder of the year testing their operations.

Residents, too, need to take the initiative in addressing their own concerns. But reliable information may be hard to come by. Consider this: in my own quest to get good information about the effects of the Year 2000 on my day-to-day life from the Internet, I found almost 1,000 separate Web site hits with just a cursory search. The listings covered everything from Y2K consultants to Y2K survivalists. To say that it is overwhelming is an understatement!

Undoubtedly, as more attention is focused on the issue of the "Y2K Bug," more questions will arise regarding how this computer glitch will affect the residents of San Diego County - consumers, seniors, small businesses, financial institutions, the local military community, and municipal governments. In the end, individuals will need to decide for themselves which steps should be taken to prepare for any risk posed by the "Y2K bug."

Still, it is not easy for a person to find out what steps to take. That's why on Dec. 8, the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to support my proposal to help inform individuals and businesses in San Diego County of how to deal with Y2K and what others are doing.

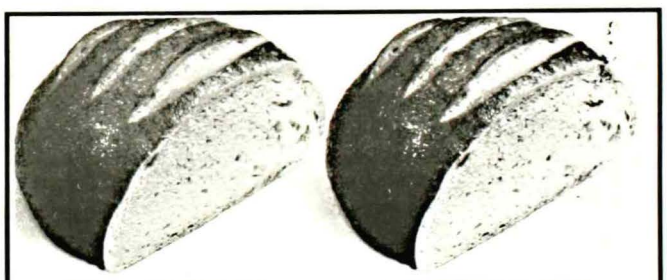
In February, 1999, a Y2K Summit will be convened to focus on the impacts of Y2K on residents and businesses in San Diego County. And, two "Y2K Consumer Checklists" will be developed - one for residents and one for businesses. Residents and business-owners may attend the summit to hear first-hand what measures have been taken by the county, as well as other institutions, to assure they are Y2K-compliant.

In addition, residents and business-owners can sign up to receive a checklist to assist them in gathering the information they need about steps they must take to become Y2K-compliant.

Both the "Y2K Residential Consumer Checklist" and the "Y2K Business Consumer Checklist" will aid citizens and businesses in preparing for the effects of the Y2K bug on their day-to-day activities.

Some examples of residential checklist items relate to banks, utilities, home security systems, personal computers and timed-sprinkler systems. The checklist will provide an easy reference for consumers who want to prevent Y2K glitches in their daily lives. A similar checklist will be developed for business, but will focus on goods and services typically provided to businesses.

If you would like to be notified regarding the date and location for the summit or if you would like to be put on the mailing list to receive a checklist, call my office at 531-5522 or (800) 852-7322. Or, drop me an e-mail at Dianne-Jacob@co.san-diego.ca.us.



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Obituaries

Ruth Powell

Ruth I. Powell, 87, of Lemon Grove, died December 14, 1998 while in Alvarado Hospital in San Diego.

Mrs. Powell was born July 14, 1911 in Cheyenne, Wyoming and lived in Lemon Grove for 63 years. She was the owner/operator of the Mira Monte Trailer Park in Lemon Grove from 1952 to 1976. She also served as a member and past president of both the Lemon Grove Business Women's League and the Lemon Grove Lioness' Club; active member at the Lemon Grove Congregational United Church of Christ.

She was preceeded in death by husband Ben Vestal (3-14-57); husband Lawson Willingham (1-4-73); and husband Clarke Powell (1-7-81).

Survivors include daughters Blanche McVay of Santee; Corrine Armstrong of San Diego and Nellie Marie Cox of Lewiston, Calif; eight grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 16 great-great grandchildren.

A funeral service was held at 10 a.m. on December 18, 1998 at Conrad Lemon Grove Mortuary, followed by a private interment at greenwood Memorial Park. The family requests that contributions be sent to a charity of the donor's choice.

John McCormick

John McCormick, 47, of Lemon Grove, died of pneumonia after several years of battling cancer, on Nov. 28, 1998 in Visalia, Calif. He was in the care of his wife, Aline, mother-in-law, Jo Best, and brother-in-law, Frank Best.

At the time of his death, he expressed his love for his wife and children. Known for his wit and wisdom, he was a doting father, very proud of his son and daughter and involved with their activities.

Mr. McCormick was born Sept. 22, 1951 in San Diego. He worked as a county planner for San Diego County for 28 years, and was known throughout the county for his extensive land-use knowledge and his skill in assisting the public with complex planning issues. Among his many contributions to the department, he wrote many of the county land use ordinances.

Mr. McCormick attended Lemon Grove schools, was a life member of the Lemon Grove Historical Society. Woodworking and stained glass were two of McCormick's favorite hobbies, and over the years he created beautiful objects such as jewelry and walking sticks, which he gave to his friends.

He is predeceased by his parents, Paul and Elizabeth McCormick, who were co-founders of the society.

Survivors include his wife, Aline; a daughter, Virginia, who is in kindergarten at San Miguel Elementary School and son, Paul, a freshman at Helix High School. He is also survived by a maternal aunt, Mildred Craig, of National City; his two sisters, Pat Lambeth of Tulare, Calif. and Helen Hobbs-Halmay of Lemon Grove.

At Mr. McCormick's request, there was no memorial service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lemon Grove Historical Society, P.O. Box 624, Lemon Grove, Calif. 91946, or the Davis YMCA, San Miguel Elementary School Day Care (ATTN: Jason), 7059 San Miguel Ave., Lemon Grove, Calif. 91945.

WEATHER

The following information was provided by the National Weather Service.

		High	Low
December	14	61	46
December	15	76	42
December	16	-	-
December	17	84	46
December	18	61	47
December	19	62	53
December	20	57	48

The Lemon Grove Review

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All materials must be received by the Monday preceding the date of publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Advertising

All advertising is subject to current rate card. The publisher reserves the right to reject an advertiser's order.

Only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance.

Send all correspondence to: Forum Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 127, Lemon Grove, CA 91946

Gimme shelter!

Winter-clad Lemonites weren't about to let the weather ruin their Saturday evening when the "Light Up the Grove" holiday bonfire was almost rained out. After repeated attempts to light the soaked firewood, the fire was finally started and enjoyed by all who turned out in spite of the downpour. "We normally put out fires, not start them," quipped Fire Captain Tom Rosenberger regarding the delay. *Photo by Cheryl Cohen*

Community Notes

Scholarships largely untapped

Students who only concern themselves with being accepted to the college of their choice and delay applying for scholarship money are missing out on receiving assistance that could be available to them.

As a result, each year, 95 percent of the students compete for only 5 percent of the money available to them.

According to the U.S. Department of Education many students are missing out on financial aid opportunities available to them simply because they are not aware of the scholarship process and do not know how to locate scholarships that can help them.

Financial experts agree that students who take the initiative to find out what sources are available to them can be successful in funding either part or all of their educational costs.

Currently there are over 375,000 non-government scholarship and grant sources available which do not have to be paid back.

Now, through the resources of the National Academic Funding Advisory (NAFA), an updated publication for 1998-99 is available which clarifies academic funding guidelines, steps students through the maze of the financial aid process and shows them how to identify and tap into the scholarship money that is available to them.

For information on how to receive academic funding and scholarships for college, graduate school or trade school, send $3 to cover shipping and handling to the National Academic Funding Advisory (NAFA), 188 Summer Street, Scholarship Department N7, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

It's never too late ...

With the start of the New Year, resolutions made by busy adults may include going back for more education. Often a current job, family and other responsibilities are obstacles in returning to school that may seem impossible to overcome.

Grossmont College's Adult Reentry Center offers students a free workshop and orientation to school with a support network designed to make the transition easier. Adults who are considering returning to school can start their New Year off right at the workshop called "You Too, Can Go to College", which will be held from 9:30 a.m. - noon at Griffin Gate in the campus Student Center, 8800 Grossmont College Dr. in El Cajon.

For more information, or to sign up for the workshop, call Maxwynne Colley at 644-7697. Early registration is encouraged, but participants may also sign up at the door the day of the workshop. There is no charge for the workshop or parking.

Grand opening to great outdoors

Everyone is invited to the official grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the outside patio at Dirk's Horseshoe, 3:30 p.m., on Tuesday, 7662 Broadway in Lemon Grove. Mayor Mary Sessom will be in attendance, and there will be be hors d'oeuvres and drink specials. Call 469-6344 for more information.

What glass ceiling?

Lemon Grove resident, Stella Placentia, has been promoted to vice president of landscape maintenance at N.N. Jaeschke, Inc., a property services firm for residential and commercial properties.

She will oversee all activities of the landscape maintenance department. Placentia is involved in the Lemon Grove community and plays on several recreational softball teams.

New expansion...
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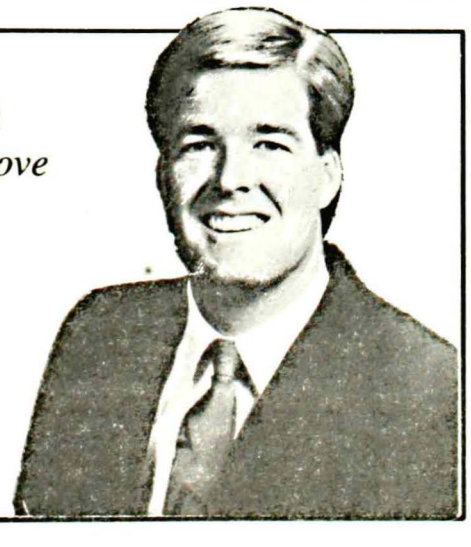

Slamming, spamming and scamming on hit list of new laws

The new year will bring additional weapons in the arsenal against consumer fraud. Legislation effective Jan. 1 is aimed at reducing various forms of scamming — including slamming, spamming and sweepstakes shenanigans.

The lemon law was sweetened, cremation regulation was strengthened and users of phone cards, the small claims court and renters also received legislative attention.

"Keeping up-to-date on your rights and remedies is your best protection against the unscrupulous and the unqualified," advised Ron Joseph, acting director of the state Department of Consumer Affairs. "Resolve to be a smart consumer in 1999 and on into the 21st Century."

Here is a sampling of some new anti-scam laws, all of which take effect starting Jan. 1. For additional consumer protection information, visit the Web site maintained by the Department at www.dca.ca.gov.

Spamming:

AB 1676, Chapter 805 (Debra Bowen, D-Marina del Rey) requires senders of unsolicited e-mail advertisements ("spam") to provide a return toll-free telephone number or e-mail address and prohibits the sender from sending additional spam if the recipient asks the sender to stop.

Sweepstakes:

Senate Bill 1476, Chapter 354 (Jim Costa, D-Fresno) prohibits sweepstakes companies from using information-access service numbers (such as "900" or "976" numbers) in their sweepstakes solicitations.

The new law addresses the problem of unsuspecting consumers racking up charges of $4 to $6 per minute to find out they haven't actually won anything.

Senate Bill 1780, Chapter 280 (Steve Peace, D-El Cajon) prohibits a variety of misleading sweepstakes mailings.

The new law prohibits these mailings from informing a recipient that he or she has won a prize unless the recipient has in fact won a prize, requires prominent display of the message "no purchase necessary," and requires equal treatment of entries without regard to whether they are accompanied by orders for products or services.

Lemon Law:

AB 1848, Chapter 352 (Susan David, D-San Diego) expands "Lemon Law" protections to small business owners who buy or lease up to 5 new motor vehicles for business and personal use.

The law currently applies only to privately owned vehicles and entitles consumers who have purchased or leased a defective vehicle, or "lemon," to receive replacement or compensation from the dealer under certain circumstances.

AB 2410, Chapter 1063 (Kevin Shelley, D-San Francisco) prevents auto manufacturers who take back "lemons" from forcing consumers to sign "gag clauses" to prevent them from talking about the vehicle's problems.

Phone facts:

AB 284, Chapter 672 (Joe Baca, D-Rialto) requires telephone companies to mail a notice to a customer confirming the customer's decision to switch telephone companies.

Companies which engage in "slamming," i.e., changing a customer's telephone company without approval, or which fail to properly verify the switch, must credit the customer with the amount in excess of charges assessed by the customer's valid telephone company.

AB 1424, Chapter 799 (Diane Martinez, D-Monterey Park) requires the California Public Utilities Commission to register companies that issue or sell prepaid telephone debit cards. The purpose of the new law is to curb abuses by screening these companies and holding them accountable.

AB 1994, Chapter 802 (Debra Bowen, D-Marina del Rey) establishes business standards and disclosure requirements for the advertisement and sale of prepaid calling cards effective July 1, 1999.

This statute requires sellers to disclose all card usage costs and charges and provide a 24-hour toll-free number for obtaining information and registering complaints.

Small Claims Court jurisdiction broadened:

AB 2702, Chapter 195 (Dion Aroner, D-Berkeley) extends the jurisdiction of the small claims court to include actions for damages for specified acts of discrimination provided that the demand does not exceed $5,000.

Cremation/Caskets:

AB 1705, Chapter 614 (Tom Torlakson, D-Antioch) permits the scattering of cremated remains over land and inland waters with written permission from the landowner or governing body, along with additional requirements for funeral directors, cremated remains disposers, and the Department of Consumer Affairs.

AB 1314, Chapter 168, (Lynne Leach, R-Walnut Creek) makes it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine, or jail sentence, or both for cremated remains disposers (CRDs) to store cremains in a reckless manner that results in the loss of all or part of the remains.

CRDs must dispose of cremated remains within 60 days of their receipt or explain the delay to the persons authorizing the disposal.

AB 1709, Chapter 286 (Elaine Alquist, D-Santa Clara) requires funeral establishments and cemetery authorities to display and make available a copy of a consumer guide to funeral and cemetery purchasers.

It also requires retail casket sellers to display the price of every casket for sale as well as disclose information regarding the construction and composition of the casket.

Renting:

AB 2166, Chapter 739 (Jim Costa, D-Fresno) prohibits municipally owned utilities and municipal utility districts from refusing to furnish services to a tenant in the tenant's name based upon the nonpayment of charges by a previous tenant.

Worship Directory

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
8086 BROADWAY
LEMON GROVE, CA 91945
PASTOR MSGR. EDWARD BROCKHAUS
Call Rectory for information and Mass Schedule. **466-3209**

LEMON GROVE CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2770 Glebe Road • Lemon Grove
Edward Pettis, Pastor
Sunday Worship & Church School 10:15 a.m.

Lemon Grove Assembly of God
Currently using the
Mount Miguel High School at
1800 Sweetwater Road
Worship Service & Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Nursery & Child Care provided
Pastor Jim Reed 697-7770

LEMON GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Loving God - Living Christ
Corner Skyline and Alton Drive
John R. Embree, Pastor
Telephone: 465-7301
Worship Services:
Traditional 9 a.m. Contemporary 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Lemon Grove Christian Church
6970 San Miguel Ave. Lemon Grove
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Myron Wells
Senior Minister
The End of Your Search for a Friendly Bible Church
Uplifting Music • Sunday School • Nursery
Excellent Youth Ministry, Preschool and Daycare
Worship: Sunday at 9:00 am & 10:40 am • Saturday at 6:00 pm
Church: **465-1888** • Preschool: **465-1887**

PUBLIC NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
CENTRAL COURTHOUSE
220 W. BROADWAY
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101-3409

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
ROBYN MICHELLE CHATMAN

FOR CHANGE OF NAME(S)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME (CCP 1277)
CASE NUMBER: 725688

PETITIONER ROBYN MICHELLE CHATMAN HAS FILED A PETITION FOR AN ORDER TO CHANGE NAMES FROM ROBYN MICHELLE CHATMAN TO NJEMILE ZAKIYA SAUDA.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court in Department D-2 of the San Diego County Superior Court at the address shown above on JAN 7 1999 at 9:00 a.m. and show cause, if any they have, why the application for change of name should not be granted.

It is FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order To Show Cause be published in the LEMON GROVE REVIEW a newspaper of general circulation published in this County, at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the day of the hearing.

DATE: NOV 10 1998

THOMAS J. WHELAN
Judge of the Superior Court

Lemon Grove Review
Dec. 3, 10, 17 & 24, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Assigned File No 98030133
The Name of the Business
LIMOUSINE SERVICE OF SAN DIEGO
located at 5311 Nutmeg St. in San Diego 92105 is hereby registered by the following owner

VICTOR MANUEL RANGEL
5311 NUTMEG ST
SAN DIEGO 92105

This business is conducted by an Individual
The transaction of business began on: Dec 1 1997
Signature of Registrant
VICTOR M. RANGEL
This statement was filed with Gregory J. Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on NOV 30 1998
Lemon Grove Review
Dec. 10, 17, 24 & 31

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE File No. - 143754 Servicer - FIRST NATIONWIDE #5770140996 Borrorer - THOMPSON YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 8/18/93. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On December 31, 1998 at 10:00 AM, **Northwest Mortgage Services, Inc.**, as duly appointed Trustee under deed of trust dated August 18, 1993 executed by Bryan Thompson, Aida Lacarra, as trustor, recorded August 25, 1993, as Instrument No. 1993055362 in Book -, Page -, of the official records of the recorder's office of San Diego County, California, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER for cash, or cashier's check (drawn and payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States as specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code), at the South entrance to the County Courthouse, 220 West Broadway, San Diego, CA all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the following described property situated in the aforesaid County and State: Lot 21 of Madera Terrace Unit No. 1, in the City of Lemon Grove, County of San Diego, State of California, according to Map thereof No. 8140, filed in the Office of the County Recorder of San Diego County, July 9, 1975. 1910 Sonoma Lane, Lemon Grove, CA 91945. APN: 576-140-34-00. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said deed of trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the deed of trust, estimated fees, charges, and expenses of the trustee and of the trusts created by said deed of trust, to-wit: $140,602.51. Dated: December 10, 1998. **Northwest Mortgage Services, Inc.**, as trustee 3636 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92108. (619) 528-4688. (916) 387-7728. Sales Information: By: Kathy Holmes, TEAM C, Authorized Signature. ASAP341913 12/10, 12/17, 12/24

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TS No. 98-08813 Loan No. 2354454 Title Order No. 03105577 Investor/Insurer No. 2238941 CA APN No. 576-612-05-00
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 10/07/94. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Notice is hereby given that CTC Foreclosure Services Corporation, as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by MICHAEL S. MCCOMAS, A MARRIED MAN AS HIS SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY dated 10/07/94 and recorded 10/11/94 as Instrument No. 19940598712 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of San Diego County, State of California, will sell on 01/07/99 at 12:00PM, AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CITY HALL EAST, 300 NORTH COAST HIGHWAY, OCEANSIDE, CA at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1625 WATWOOD ROAD, LEMON GROVE, CA 91945 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is $155650.93. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. Dated: CTC Foreclosure Services Corporation, 400 Countrywide Way, SV-88, Simi Valley, CA 93065 Phone: **(805) 520-5241** ext. 2686. Sale information: (805) 578-6618 By: **/S/Trustee Sale Officer**
CTC Foreclosure Services is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
12/17/1998, 12/24/1998 and 12/31/1998

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that personal property in the following units will be sold at public auction on the 12th day of January, 1999 at or after 9:00 a.m. pursuant to the California Self-Storage Facility Act. The sale will be conducted at Lemon Grove U-Haul Center, 1805 Massachusetts Ave., Lemon Grove, CA 92045. The items to be sold are generally described as follows: clothing, furniture, and/or other household items stored by the following persons:

Unit Number	& Name
83	Mary Black
184	Jeanne Fredrickson
193	Alvin Burrell
263A	Denise Davis
286	Willie Stembridge
345	Vivian Hubby
405	Patrick McDonnell
427	Anita Hackett
434	Margret McDaniel
441	Margret Mc Daniel
199	Judy Luz
298	Monica Tyner
388	Brandon Weber

CNS 1668974

Lemon Grove Review
Dec. 24 & 31, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Assigned File No 98031611
The Name of the Business
TRAVEL DEPARTMENT
located at 7082 Park Grove Court in Lemon Grove, CA 91945 is hereby registered by the following owners

STEVEN S. MACKNIGHT
7082 PARK GROVE CT
LEMON GROVE 91945

PATRICIA MACKNIGHT
7082 PARK GROVE CT
LEMON GROVE 91945

This business is conducted by Individuals - Husband and Wife
The transaction of business began on 5/18/98
Signature of Registrant
PATRICIA MACKNIGHT
This statement was filed with Gregory J. Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on DEC 17 1998
Lemon Grove Review
Dec. 24, 31, 98 & Jan. 7 & 14, 99

Only $22!
To publish your Fictitious Business Name Statement in *The Lemon Grove Review*:
P.O. Box 127 Lemon Grove 91946

East County communities, SANDAG debate accuracy of homeless statistics

by Joe Naiman

Defining homelessness shouldn't be difficult, but the San Diego Association of Governments staff has published statistics that have local officials wondering.

The SANDAG Housing Element Advisory Committee and the Regional Task Force on the Homeless held a joint workshop Oct. 29, and a report was presented to the SANDAG board Dec. 18. While the purpose of the report was to ensure that housing needs are covered in long-term planning, the methodology created problems among the members.

The first to speak up was El Cajon City Councilman Dick Ramos. El Cajon, which had 90 homeless persons in the 1990 census, was listed as having 500 homeless residents in the city.

"I'm really disgusted with this figure. It's nowhere near accurate," said Ramos.

Ramos stated that El Cajon's own task force reported 75 habitually homeless residents of El Cajon. He noted that those who lose jobs or homes and are temporarily homeless are berthed and otherwise helped while those counted as habitually homeless often refuse assistance for long-term shelter.

La Mesa Mayor Art Madrid said statistics regarding homelessness and crime must be reliable.

"There are two sets of figures that disturb a community to no end," said Madrid, who is the president of the SANDAG board. "We want accurate data so that we can provide some help."

Madrid said that a documentation basis similar to that which provides crime statistics should be present in the assessment of a community's homeless population.

Madrid also noted that the issue of homelessness should deal with the cause of homelessness.

"Let's not just look at the symptom," he said. "The symptom is homelessness. What is the cause?"

For some listed as homeless, the cause may be work away from an actual home. Pam Slater, who represents the Board of Supervisors on the SANDAG board, said that the county of San Diego would be doing its own study because it didn't feel SANDAG's numbers were accurate.

According to the 1990 census, there were no homeless people in the unincorporated areas in 1990. According to the 1998 Regional Task Force on the Homeless estimates, there are 2,000 homeless in unincorporated areas: 300 in urban areas and 1,700 in rural areas.

But an asterisk beside the rural classification heading notes that the figure includes homeless farm workers and day laborers.

"These people are not homeless. They are unsheltered. Their home is not here," said Slater.

Slater noted that Supervisor Bill Horn and herself are working with the San Diego County Farm Bureau on shelter for migrants. But many of those considered homeless actually spend nights in camps or with relatives or friends.

"There doesn't seem to be a lot of logic," Slater said of the figures, which also based the number of sheltered homeless on the number of shelter beds available each night and thus claimed that 92 percent of the unincorporated areas' homeless are unsheltered.

During the SANDAG board meeting National City's Ron Morrison wondered about the urban-rural breakdown which listed 75 National City residents as homeless in the rural area of a city which is built out and, according to Morrison, has only a few vacant lots big enough for a house.

"We see numbers like this and we start to build programs for those kinds of numbers instead of what is real," said Morrison. "The accuracy of the numbers is more important than the size of the numbers."

El Cajon's homeless statistics revealed 400 in urban areas and 100 in rural areas. Since the figures only covered the city of El Cajon, Ramos wonders what is considered rural.

"We're like some of the other cities. We're built out, so I don't know what they're talking about when they say rural areas," he said. "We're really built out."

Ramos said that he would double-check with the city for recent numbers. The SANDAG report stated that there were 31 shelter beds in the city, leaving 94 percent of El Cajon's alleged homeless unsheltered.

Madrid advised that this was a working document and not cast in concrete.

"We have to start making sure that we have accurate data so we can attack and address the problem," he said.

La Mesa was also listed as not having any homeless in the 1990 census, as was Lemon Grove. According to the 1998 estimates, La Mesa now has 50 homeless in urban areas and 20 in rural areas, with 6 of the 70 homeless sheltered 91 percent would be unsheltered.

Lemon Grove allegedly has 60 homeless, all in urban areas. However, with 53 of them sheltered, its 12 percent unsheltered rate tops the 18 jurisdictions listed with a homeless population. (The report stated that no homeless live in Coronado.)

Santee, which was listed as having 5 homeless in the 1990 census, allegedly now has 150: 50 in urban areas and 100 in rural areas. With no shelter beds, Santee is one of seven cities with a 100 percent unsheltered rate.

A mother's Christmas wish

Dear Leonard,

I am so happy that you are coming home for the holidays. I already have an outfit picked out to go to the airport. Just look for the pink shirt with the butterflies on it. I wore it the last time I picked you up.

I have started getting the apartment ready by putting up pictures and cleaning. I feel so positive and happy the last few days, knowing that you are coming home gives me something positive to look forward to. I hope to have a special surprise for you when you come home.

I really don't understand it, but my whole attitude has changed since I found out that my son is coming home. I realize you were going to Bosnia in February, so it would be nice if you could have some fun on this visit. It will be so much fun to spend Christmas on a Friday. I won't have to deliver papers the day before or after Christmas.

I met a most interesting young lady who I invited over for the holidays. She is so beautiful in her unique way. At first, I said she had "cat" eyes. The more we talked, I told her she has the eyes of a white tiger. Oh yeah - she has a tongue ring! But she plays with it in a neat way.

She loves a person who is into poems, roses, walks on the beach, the fun center, the boardwalk, and also likes white tigers. So, plan to have a really good time meeting a new friend who has the same interest that you have. She plans on going into the Army, although her elders keep telling her she can't make it.

She is only 16 years old, and you have to be a army gentleman ... I really don't think you would be bored, so plan to have some good ole American fun. I know I won't see you much, so I hope you are excited to come home. Can't wait to see you!

Love, Mom

Mary Emo is on the distribution staff for Forum Publications.

Head start for Santa

Costco Meat Department Manager Kevin Ray gets Kris Kringle duty in delivering presents to children enrolled in the Head Start program. Costco employees Lisa Shubb and Tammy Krasne rounded up the toys and other gifts donated by collegues. In lieu of a reindeer-powered sleigh, Santa arrived courtesy of the La Mesa Fire Department.

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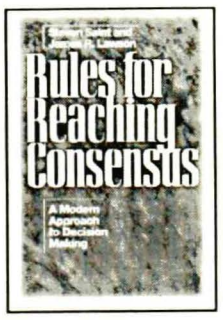

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Doctor suggests how to make and keep resolutions

When the clock strikes 12 a.m. on Jan. 1, your life will change. You'll make resolutions to kiss those bad habits goodbye forever, and a new you will take on the New Year. You'll slim down, pump up, control your temper, save money, watch less TV, quit smoking and read more.

Of course, these are the same resolutions we all made last year and the year before. According to Philip Botkiss, M.D., a psychiatrist with Charter Behavioral Health System, our resolutions fail because we don't think them through.

"We can't merely make a resolution. We need to have a clear, step-by-step plan in order to carry it out," he said. "It also helps to turn the negative into a positive. Instead of looking at your resolution as depriving yourself of something, think about how good you'll feel about the behaviors that will replace it," Dr. Botkiss said.

Dr. Botkiss recommends that you think of resolutions as goals. He said setting goals, and reaching them, is important for our self-esteem and gives us a sense of progress. Without them, we tend to feel helpless, hopeless and worthless. Dr. Botkiss offered the following tips to help make our resolutions work:

- Define your goals. They must be realistic and measurable. Break the big goals down into smaller steps — by day, week, or month — that will be easier to achieve.
- Develop a positive attitude. Forget about past failures, if indeed, they were failures. Don't sabotage yourself with defeat before you start.
- If you've had trouble reaching a goal before, perhaps it's because you use the same old techniques that haven't worked in the past.

Whatever your goal or resolution, you will need a timeline. Write the end result on your calendar on the projected date and jot down the smaller, measurable steps each month or week. Or, make a chart and put it where you can see it each day.

- Resolutions and goals are easier to reach when we enlist the aid of others. Get a friend, family member or support group to help you. If the problem is severe, make a resolution to get professional help.
- Be good to yourself. Reward yourself in a tangible way when you have some measurable success. Succeeding with a resolution is extremely satisfying. It makes us feel in control of our lives.

Family fun set for New Year's Eve

This New Year's Eve there seems to be a little something for everybody. Kids can enjoy a sleepover, youth and young adults can rock out to live entertainment and parents can partake of a non-alcoholic celebration which will include a karaoke stage for the extroverts.

Overnight party

The Spring Valley Parks & Recreation Department will host an overnight party for children kindergarten through 5th grade.

The party will begin at 6 p.m., with children to be dropped off no later than 6:30 p.m. and conclude by 8 a.m. New Year's Day. The cost is $20 per child.

The event will be held in the Recreation Center Banquet Hall and the Teen Center Building, 8735 Jamacha Blvd. in Spring Valley.

Activities scheduled for the evening include Foosball, pool, ping pong and video games.

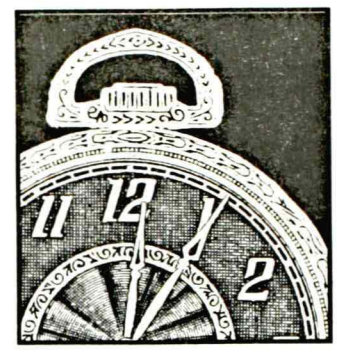
There will be a pizza dinner, music, games crafts, a special "toast" and movies. The New Year will start off with an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast.

Advance reservations are mandatory and will be accepted at the Spring Valley Community Center, 8735 Jamacha Blvd. For additional information, call 479-1832.

Gymnasium bash

College Avenue Baptist Church will host their New Year's Eve Bash in the church's gym. The party will include music by Juggernaut, Climbing Wall and Midnight Madness.

The event will take place from 8:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. and will include free food for everyone.



First Night - again

The seventh annual First Night Celebrate San Diego will bring hundreds of entertainers to a downtown New Year's Eve celebration that is alcohol-free.

Things will start up at 6 p.m. and will continue until 1 a.m. at the Embarcadero Marina Park, behind SeaPort Village in downtown San Diego.Headliner entertainment on several stages throughout the evening will include Ruby & The Red Hots.

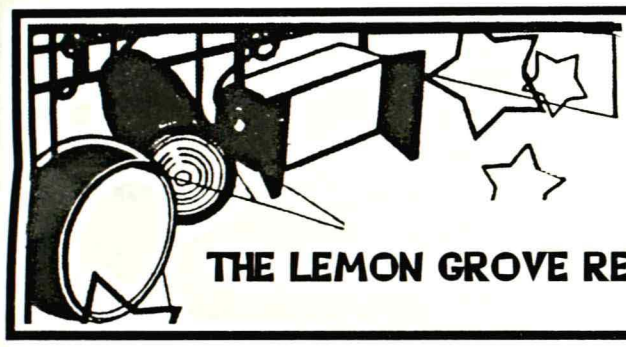
There will also be an international food court, Disney films, a karaoke stage, astro jumps, pony and train rides, a petting zoo, multicultural dancers, clowns and wandering performers. A fireworks extravaganza is scheduled for 11:45 p.m.

Other activities taking place will be hat making, mask making, face painting, sand painting, mural creations, instrument making, a talent show and sports contests.

There even will be a Renaissance troupe and a Native American camp on display with live presentations occurring throughout the evening.

The food court will sell delicacies from foreign lands and America's cultural hot spots like Louisiana and New York.

The event is sponsored by Presidio Communications, the County of San Diego, Radio Disney, KBEST and KNSD TV/39. For further information, call 296-8731.



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